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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of grace and God of glory, Your providence has guided our ways in times past. You have taught us to trust You for each day and every event.

As our Senators seek to do Your will, renew their faith, rekindle their love, and regenerate their resolve. Give them the insight to know that not everything old is bad, nor everything new, good; conversely, not everything old is good, nor everything new, bad. Teach them through Your Spirit lessons they need to learn. May their highest aim be to love You and do Your will. Lead them with Your sure hand so they may follow You without hesitation.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we will resume debate on the port

security bill immediately following the 30-minute period of morning business. We have an agreement for a vote in relation to Senator REID's amendment to occur at 12:15 today. There is a point of order against that amendment, and therefore the vote is likely to be on a motion to waive the budget relative to that amendment.

The managers have done good work on the bill thus far, but we have not had an agreement yet as to when we can finish this security legislation. Therefore, last night I filed a cloture motion on the bill so that we will conclude the bill this week. I have indicated we are willing to vitiate that vote if an agreement is reached that will bring the Senate to a reasonable conclusion on this port security measure. In the meantime, we will continue to work on amendments, with rollcall votes each day. I also remind Senators that under the rule, Senators have until 1 p.m. today in order to file timely first-degree amendments.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business for up to 30 minutes, with the first half of the time under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee and the second half of the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

REAL SECURITY AMENDMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, shortly there will be a debate on an amendment that was offered on my behalf and a number of other Democrats.

It is an amendment that would implement all 41 recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission.

The amendment would equip our intelligence community to fight terrorists. In effect, what it would do is go back to what we have been doing for 27 years; that is, allow the Intelligence Committee every year to have a bill before this body, to allow them to update what needs to be done so they can proceed with intelligence activities in our country and around the rest of the world. We did not authorize the Intelligence Committee's work for the first time in 28 years last year. Now, this year, we have not done it again. This amendment would put that in effect.

Third, the amendment would secure our ports, rails, roads, airports, chemical and nuclear plants, and mass transit systems.

Fourth, the amendment would refocus America on the war on terror. I went into that in some detail yesterday.

Fifth, the amendment would provide better, updated tools to bring terrorists to justice.

Finally, the amendment would change course in Iraq. Certainly that is something the American people deserve and want.

Yesterday in Iraq, 65 Iraqis were found dead, a number of them beheaded, one with a note saying: Anyone that cooperates with Americans, this is what is going to happen to them. In addition to that, scores of others were killed in bombing incidents around the country. Two American soldiers were killed.

So the amendment would change course in Iraq. Americans deserve real security. This bill is real security. The amendment is real security. I ask colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this amendment.

I yield the floor, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, may I proceed?

• This "buller" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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